



NEWS RELEASE

WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC • 245 PARK AVENUE • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10167

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 27, 2016

MANAGERS, ROSTERS AND GAME SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED FOR SYDNEY QUALIFIER

Qualifier Opens with Doubleheader on February 11th, featuring South Africa vs. New Zealand and Philippines vs. Australia;

Jon Deeble to Lead Australia in WBC for Fourth Time; Former Major Leaguer Chris Woodward to Manage New Zealand;

Rosters Feature 16 Players Affiliated with Major League Clubs

World Baseball Classic, Inc. (WBCI) today announced the managers, rosters and game schedule for the Sydney, Australia Qualifier, which will be played February 11th-14th at Blacktown International Sportspark. The winner of the Qualifier, which features Australia, New Zealand, Philippines and South Africa, will advance to compete in the 2017 World Baseball Classic, the fourth installment of the baseball tournament featuring many of the world's greatest players.

The Qualifier will open on Thursday, February 11th with a doubleheader featuring South Africa vs. New Zealand, followed by Philippines vs. Australia. The complete schedule of games is as follows:

QUALIFIER 1: Sydney, Australia		Blacktown International Sportspark	
AUSTRALIA NEW ZEALAND PHILIPPINES SOUTH AFRICA			
Game Date	Local	ET	Match-up (Home team in bold)
Thu, Feb 11	1:00pm	9:00pm†	South Africa vs. New Zealand
Thu, Feb 11	7:30pm	3:30am	Philippines vs. Australia
Fri, Feb 12	1:00pm	9:00pm†	Philippines* vs. TBD
Fri, Feb 12	7:30pm	3:30am	Australia* vs. TBD
Sat, Feb 13	6:30pm	2:30am	TBD vs. TBD
Sun, Feb 14	2:00pm	10:00pm†	Finalist 2 vs. Finalist 1

* Teams will play at listed game time regardless of whether they win or lose their opening game.

† Game is played previous calendar day ET

The host team Australia will be led by manager Jon Deeble, who will serve in this capacity for the fourth time during WBC play. In the three previous installments of the event, Australia has combined to go 1-8, with the lone win coming in a 17-7 defeat of Mexico in 2009. The 28-man roster features nine players affiliated with Major League Clubs, including right-handed pitchers Sam Gibbons (MIN), Peter Moylan (KC), Warwick Saupold (DET) and Todd Van Steensel (MIN); left-handed pitcher Steven Kent (ATL); catcher Matt Kennelly (ATL); infielders James Beresford (MIN) and Logan Wade (MIN); and outfielder Aaron Whitefield (MIN).

New Zealand will be managed by former Major League infielder Chris Woodward, who served as a base coach for the team during the Qualifying Round of the 2013 WBC. New Zealand went 2-2 during the 2013 Qualifier, which marked the country's debut in the WBC, and was defeated by Chinese Taipei in the pool's final game. The team will feature two affiliated Major League players, including left-handed pitcher Nick Maronde (CLE) and outfielder Max Brown (ARI).

Tim Hulett, who currently serves as the manager of the Texas Rangers' Single-A affiliate Spokane Indians, will lead the Philippines in the country's second appearance in a WBC Qualifier. The Philippines made their WBC debut during the 2013 Qualifying Round and went 1-2 with the victory coming in an 8-2 defeat of Thailand. The team will feature two affiliated Major League players, including catcher Brad Haynal (MIA) and infielder Angelo Songco (LAD).



South Africa will be skippered by Alan Phillips, who was the team's bench coach during the 2013 Qualifier. In addition, Phillips was a pitcher for the South African national baseball team during the 1998 Baseball World Cup in Italy and the 2000 Summer Olympics in Sydney. South Africa, which defeated France, 5-2 in 11 innings during the 2013 Qualifier, has combined to go 1-7 in three WBC appearances, including 0-5 in the main tournament. The South African team will feature three affiliated players, including right-handed pitchers Callan Pearce (MIN) and Dylan Unsworth (SEA); and outfielder Rowan Ebersohn (MIN).

Following the Sydney Qualifier, additional Qualifiers will be held at Estadio B Air in Mexicali, Mexico on March 17th-20th (Mexico, Czech Republic, Germany, Nicaragua); Rod Carew Stadium in Panama City, Panama on March 17th-20th (Colombia, France, Panama, Spain); and MCU Park in Brooklyn, New York on September 22nd-25th (Brazil, Great Britain, Israel, Pakistan).

The Qualifiers will feature a six-game, modified double-elimination format. The composition of the pools was determined after venues were selected, with consideration given to competitive balance, existing rivalries and each national team's geographic location.

The winners from each Qualifier will advance to the World Baseball Classic tournament, scheduled for March 2017. Those four teams will join the 12 countries – Canada, China, Chinese Taipei, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Italy, Japan, Korea, Kingdom of the Netherlands, Puerto Rico, United States and Venezuela – that received automatic invitations based on their performance in the 2013 tournament.

The Qualifiers were originally introduced prior to the 2013 World Baseball Classic, when Qualifiers were held in Panama City; Regensburg, Germany; Jupiter, Florida; and Taipei, Taiwan during the fall of 2012. The inaugural World Baseball Classic was held in 2006 prior to ensuing editions in 2009 and 2013.

Complete rosters for the Sydney, Australia Qualifier accompany this press release.

ABOUT WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC, INC.

World Baseball Classic, Inc. (WBCI) is a company created at the direction of Major League Baseball (MLB) and the Major League Baseball Players Association (MLBPA) to operate the World Baseball Classic tournament. The tournament, which is sanctioned by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC), is supported by MLB, the MLBPA, Nippon Professional Baseball (NPB), the Korea Baseball Organization (KBO), their respective players associations and other leagues and players from around the world.

ABOUT THE WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

The World Baseball Classic is the premier international baseball tournament, sanctioned by the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC), as the sport's official National Team World Championship, and features the best players in the world competing for their home countries and territories. More than 2.4 million fans from all over the world have attended the tournament games, held in March 2006, March 2009 and March 2013. Team Dominican Republic is the reigning World Baseball Classic Champion after going undefeated during its 2013 championship run. The upcoming World Baseball Classic will be played in March 2017 and will again feature the greatest baseball-playing nations in the world. The tournament will be held every four years thereafter.

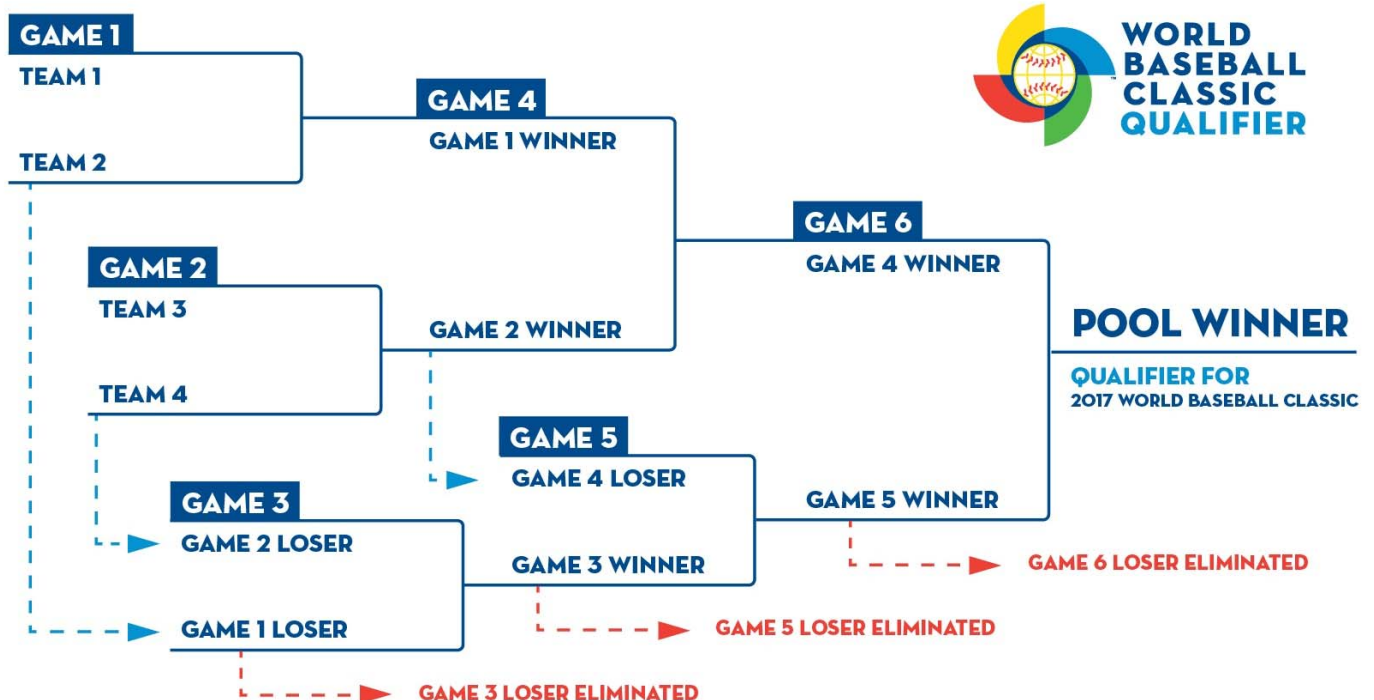
ABOUT THE WORLD BASEBALL SOFTBALL CONFEDERATION

The World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) is the global governing body for the sports of baseball and softball resulting from the merger of the International Baseball Federation and International Softball Federation in 2013. WBSC governs all international competitions, including Premier12, World Baseball Classic and the Baseball World Cups, which involve any of the National Teams of its 208 National Federation members in 141 countries and territories worldwide. For more information, visit www.wbsc.co

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**World Baseball Classic Qualifier
Modified Double-Elimination Format**





28-MAN ROSTER
Manager: Jon Deeble

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Beresford	James	INF	MIN	Rochester Red Wings (AAA)
Blackley	Travis	LHP	FA	-
Chambers	Steven	RHP	FA	-
D'Antonio	Trent	C	FA	-
De San Miguel	Allan	C	FA	-
Dening	Mitchell	OF	FA	-
Erasmus	Justin	RHP	FA	-
Gibbons	Sam	RHP	MIN	Cedar Rapids Kernels (A)
Harman	Brad	2B	FA	-
Hughes	Luke	INF	FA	-
Kandilas	David	OF	FA	-
Kennelly	Matt	C	ATL	Mississippi Braves (AA)
Kent	Steven	LHP	ATL	Mississippi Braves (AA)
Lundgren	Wayne	RHP	FA	-
Moylan	Peter	RHP	KC	Omaha Storm Chasers (AAA)
Nilsson	Mitchell	C	FA	-
Oeltjen	Trent	OF	FA	-
Rowland-Smith	Ryan	LHP	FA	-
Saupold	Warwick	RHP	DET	Toledo Mud Hens (AAA)
Searle	Ryan	RHP	FA	-
Sutherland	David	1B	FA	-
Timms	Matt	RHP	FA	-
Tols	Josh	LHP	FA	-
Van Steensel	Todd	RHP	MIN	Rochester Red Wings (AAA)
Wade	Logan	SS	MIN	Fort Myers Miracle (A)
Welch	Stefan	INF	FA	--
Whitefield	Aaron	OF	MIN	GCL Twins (R)
Williams	Matthew	RHP	FA	-

NEW ZEALAND

28-MAN ROSTER

Manager: Chris Woodward

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Auty	Tim	OF	FA	-
Bartorillo	Tyron	INF	FA	-
Bishop	Beau	C	FA	-
Boyce	Jimmy	RHP	FA	-
Boyce	Joe	RHP	FA	-
Bradley	Daniel	OF	FA	-
Brown	Max	OF	ARI	AZL Diamondbacks (R)
Campbell	Scott	INF	FA	-
Cone	Ben	RHP	FA	-
Cone	Scott	LHP	FA	-
Curry	Jacob	LHP	FA	-
De Klerk	Dewald	C	FA	-
Glogoski	Kyle	RHP	FA	-
Hughlon	Benjamin	RHP	FA	-
Johnstone	Blair	RHP	FA	-
Lamb-Hunt	Daniel	OF	FA	-
Lee	John	RHP	FA	-
Marck	Andrew	RHP	FA	-
Maronde	Nick	LHP	CLE	Columbus Clippers (AAA)
Matthews	Jason	SS	FA	-
Moanaroa	Boss	1B	FA	-
Moanaroa	Moko	OF	FA	-
O'Gorman	Connar	C	FA	-
Paewai	Riki	RHP	FA	-
Schoenberger	Alan	SS	FA	-
Thompson	Ben	RHP	FA	-
Wilson	Jamie	RHP	FA	-
Yard	Randy	RHP	FA	-

Philippines

28-MAN ROSTER **Manager: Tim Hulett**

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Aguila	Chris	OF	FA	-
Bernardo	Adriane Ros	2B	FA	-
Binarao	Ernesto	LHP	FA	-
Bunda	J.R.	RHP	FA	-
Cabiling	Leslie	RHP	FA	-
Conlan	Brady	3B	FA	-
Del Socorro	Edmer	C	FA	-
Eguia	Vladimir	LHP	FA	-
Farris	Eric	OF	FA	-
Garrison	Taylor	RHP	FA	-
Haynal	Austin	RHP	FA	-
Haynal	Brad	C	MIA	Batavia Muckdogs (A)
Jasmin	Romeo	RHP	FA	-
Juarez	Ryan	RHP	FA	-
Liguayan	Ferdinand	OF	FA	-
Macasaet	Juan Paulo	OF	FA	-
Olivares	Alfredo	C	FA	-
Pareja	Jennald	SS	FA	-
Peralta	Ronel	RHP	FA	-
Ponce	Jonash	OF	FA	-
Ramirez	Devon	LHP	FA	-
Rapada	Clay	LHP	FA	-
Robles	Jon Jon	LHP	FA	-
Songco	Angelo	1B	LAD	Tulsa Drillers (AA)
Vance	Kevin	RHP	FA	-
Vance	Matt	SS	FA	-
Vernon	Diaz	OF	FA	-
Wong	Joshua	INF	FA	-

SOUTH AFRICA

28-MAN ROSTER **Manager: Alan Phillips**

Last	First	Pos.	MLB Org.	Current Club
Bibis	Kyron	OF	FA	-
Botha	Kyle	C	FA	-
Bouillon	Brandon	OF	FA	-
Cahill	Garth	RHP	FA	-
Cree	Kieran	RHP	FA	-
Ebersohn	Rowan	OF	MIN	GCL Twins (R)
Ekermans	Shannon	1B	FA	-
Elario	Jared	RHP	FA	-
Ettisch	Kyle	C	FA	-
Gaddin	Kyle	RHP	FA	-
Hoskins	Wesley	INF	FA	-
Jacobs	Dean	RHP	FA	-
Lewis-Walker	Robert	RHP	FA	-
Michaels	Carl	RHP	FA	-
Olivier	Russel	RHP	FA	-
Pearce	Callan	RHP	MIN	GCL Twins (R)
Phillips	Anthony	SS	FA	-
Phillips	Jonathan	3B	FA	-
Randall	Allan	INF	FA	-
Robb	Hein	LHP	FA	-
Smith	Benjamin	OF	FA	-
Stevens	Lloyd	RHP	FA	-
Swanepoel	Keegan	1B	FA	-
Unsworth	Dylan	RHP	SEA	Tacoma Rainiers (AAA)
Vincent	Liam	RHP	FA	-
Willemburg	Brett	INF	FA	-
Wood	Damian	RHP	FA	-